

Northumberland County Council

Family and Children's Services Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Work Programme and Monitoring Report 2022 - 2023

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TERMS OF REFERENCE

(a) To monitor, review and make recommendations about:

- Early Years
- Education and Schools
- Special education needs and disability
- Adult and Community Education
- Training and Vocational Education
- Lifelong Learning
- Youth Offending
- Social Services for Children and Young People
- Children's Health
- Teenage Sexual Health
- Looked After Children
- Safeguarding – Children
- Youth Services
- Family Services
- Children's Centres

(b) To oversee and monitor school improvement, as follows:

- (i) To receive feedback on the Ofsted inspection of schools.
- (ii) To support the work of the County Council and the progress of schools on the School Intervention and Support Programme in specified categories.
- (iii) To receive an annual report about the number of schools that have been on the School Intervention and Support Programme, the reason(s) for their inclusion, the support given by the Council and the success of this support.
- (iv) To receive an annual report on the performance of schools.

ISSUES TO BE SCHEDULED/CONSIDERED

Regular updates:

Safeguarding Activity Trends Report
Finance and Performance Six Monthly Report
Children Permanently Excluded from School/Elective Home Education
Schools performance
Joint Targeted Area Inspection

Issues to be raised:

Themed Scrutiny:

Issues to be scheduled:

School Capital Investment
Education (Guidance about the cost of School Uniforms) Act 2021

**Northumberland County Council
Family and Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Work Programme 2022 - 2023**

2 February 2023

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| | <p>Pre-Scrutiny:- School Admission Arrangements for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools for 2024/2025 Academic Year</p> <p>Virtual School Headteacher Annual Report 2021-2022</p> <p>Children who are Electively Home Educated (Summary and Guidance)</p> <p>Social Work Workforce and Recruitment and Retention</p> <p>Domestic Abuse</p> | <p>This report informs Cabinet of the outcomes of the consultation on School Admission Arrangements for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools for the 2024/25 Academic Year as required by the School Admissions Code 2014. Approval (determination) of these admission arrangements is also sought.</p> <p>To present the education outcomes of Northumberland's looked after children for the academic year 2021 – 2022.</p> <p>The report provides information about the increase in the number of children who are electively home educated, and the multi-agency support that is in place for families.</p> <p>The purpose this is to provide Scrutiny with an update on the current domestic abuse multi-agency partnership arrangements and domestic abuse service.</p> |
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| 2 March 2023 | | |
| | <p>Director of Education Annual Report: Key Educational Outcomes (2021-2022 Academic Year)</p> <p>Finance & Performance</p> <p>Safeguarding Activity Trend</p> | <p>Annual report on the key educational outcomes of the previous academic year. The Committee will be asked to identify any further areas for scrutiny.</p> <p>To consider current performance and the budgetary position for services within the Committee's terms of reference</p> <p>To provide analysis of social work activity trends and case allocation as well as highlighting national developments regarding the Department for Education safeguarding indicators.</p> |
| 6 April 2023 | | |
| | <p>Annual Report of Principle Social Worker</p> <p>School Transport Review Outcome Options</p> | <p>To advise and update the Scrutiny Committee about the input and work of the Principal Social Worker in 2021/22 and an overview of the quality of practice and development needs of frontline social workers.</p> <p>To understand how the recommendations of the review will be implemented and to agree a timeframe for receiving further updates</p> |

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| Ref | Date | Report | Decision | Outcome |
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| 1 | 5 May 2022 | Informal Consultation on School Organisation for The Coquet Partnership | RESOLVED that Cabinet be advised that this Committee supported the recommendations outlined in the report. | At its meeting on 10 May, Cabinet considered the Committee's comments. |
| 2 | 5 May 2022 | Update On Future Arrangements for The Delivery of Early Help Locality Services in Northumberland | RESOLVED that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The proposed changes to the current commissioning arrangements be agreed; and 2. The temporary increase in expenditure during 2022/23, 2223/24 and 2024/25, which would be covered by the additional grant funding to be received over the same period from the Supporting Families programme and the Family Hub and Start for life Programmes be noted. | No further action |

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| 3 | 26 May 2022 | Education Strategy Board Annual Update | RESOLVED that it be noted that the Committee had reviewed the performance of the Board in its first year and its ability to review, develop and drive the Education and Skills key priorities | To continue to receive annual updates |
| 4 | 26 May 2022 | The Impact of the School Improvement Team | It was unanimously RESOLVED that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The performance of the team and their ability to develop the quality of education in Northumberland be noted; 2. The changes to funding imposed by the DfE and the possible impact of service be noted; 3. A further report be received once it was known how the reduced funding would be accounted for; and 4. A recommendation be made to Cabinet for funding of the School Improvement Team to continue until the end of this Administration so that the team could continue to develop and offer support to schools both inside and outside of Northumberland | A further report to be received at a later date |
| 5 | 7 July 2022 | Send Strategy Progress Report | RESOLVED that the contents of the report be noted and the Committee supported the next steps to be taken. | To receive future updates |
| 6 | 7 July 2022 | The Annual Report of Northumberland County Council | RESOLVED that the contents of the report be noted and the performance information for the | No further action |

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| | | Fostering Service 2021/22 | period April 2021 – March 2022 be acknowledged. | |
| 7 | 7 July 2022 | Briefing Note - Potential Multi Academy Trust Opportunity | RESOLVED that the contents of the briefing note be noted | No further action |
| 8 | 8 September 2022 | Finance and Performance | RESOLVED that the current performance and how it compared to benchmarks was noted. | No further action |
| 9 | 8 September 2022 | Outcomes of Consultation on Proposals for the Coquet Partnership | RESOLVED that Cabinet be advised that this Committee supported the recommendations as outlined in the report. | At its meeting on 21 September, Cabinet considered the Committee's comments. |
| 10 | 8 September 2022 | Children's Services Annual Representations 2021- 2022 | RESOLVED that the contents of the report be noted. | No further action |
| 11 | 8 September 2022 | Children's Social Care – Annual Self Assessment | RESOLVED that the contents of the report be noted | No further action |
| 12 | 8 September 2022 | OFSTED Focused Visit to Northumberland Children's Services | RESOLVED that the information be noted | No further action |
| 13 | 8 September 2022 | Proposal In Relation to Future Arrangements For The Youth Service | RESOLVED that :- 1. The activity undertaken during the review be noted; and | No further action at this time |

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| | | | 2. Option 1, as outlined in the report, be agreed as the way forward. | |
| 14 | 8 September 2022 | Family Hub Development | RESOLVED that the Committee:- 1. Agree to proceed with the funding for the Family Hub offer; and 2. Support the development of the governance and wider processes to underpin this as outlined in the report. | No further action at this time |
| 15 | 8 September 2022 | Support for Children and Young people with mental health needs in Northumberland | RESOLVED that the contents of the report and the future plans be noted and the support now on offer for children and young people in Northumberland be recognised. | No further action |
| 16 | 6 October 2022 | Regional Schools Director's Overview | | No further action |
| 17 | 6 October 2022 | Outcomes of Consultation on Berwick Consultation | RESOLVED that Cabinet be advised that this Committee supported the recommendations as outlined in the report. | At its meeting on 11 October, Cabinet considered the Committee's comments. |
| 18 | 6 October 2022 | Supported Accommodation Tender | RESOLVED that Cabinet be advised that this Committee supported the recommendations outlined in the report and asked that a report be brought back to the Committee at a future date | At its meeting on 11 October, Cabinet considered the Committee's comments. |

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| | | | outlining the available services and anticipated placement numbers. | A report outlining the available services and anticipated placement numbers to be brought back in 2023 |
| 29 | 6 October 2022 | The Northumberland Inclusion Strategy | RESOLVED that the Committee welcomed the report and noted the content and detailed strategy along with the impact that the work undertaken within Children's Services and Schools has had on the lives of Northumberland children | More detail of figures in appendix 2 to be provided |
| 20 | 6 October 2022 | Pegasus Centre Update | RESOLVED that the information in the report be noted. | No further action |
| 21 | 3 November 2022 | Proposals for Coquet Partnership: Outcomes of statutory consultation and final decision | RESOLVED that the Cabinet be advised that this Committee supported the recommendations as outlined in the report. | At its meeting on 17 November, Cabinet considered the Committee's comments. |
| 22 | 3 November 2022 | SEND Place Planning and Capacity Strategy | RESOLVED that <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cabinet be advised that this Committee unanimously supported the recommendations as outlined in the report; and 2. A Task and Finish Working Group be established as outlined above. | At its meeting on 17 November, Cabinet considered the Committee's comments. |

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| 23 | 1 December 2022 | Care proceedings and Public Law Outline: Annual Report on progress | RESOLVED that the contents of the report be noted. | Report to return in 12 months |
| 24 | 5 January 2023 | National Funding Formula and School Funding 2023/24 | RESOLVED that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cabinet be advised that this Committee supported the recommendations as outlined in the report; and 2. A report be provided to this Committee giving details of the Council's education funding position and comparator information in relation to other Local Authorities and members of the F40 Group. | At its meeting on 17 January, Cabinet considered the Committee's comments. A report on Council's education funding position and comparator information to be provided in the new municipal year. |
| 25 | 5 January 2023 | Update of School Organisation Plan 2021-24 | RESOLVED that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The updating of School Organisation Plan 2021-24 to reflect changes to data and circumstances since July 2021 be noted; and 2. The updated School Organisation Plan 2021-24 be circulated to all schools, academies, Ward Councillors and would be published on the Council's website. | At its meeting on 17 January, Cabinet considered the Committee's comments. |
| 26 | 5 January 2023 | Northumberland Strategic Safeguarding Partnership Annual Report | RESOLVED that the contents of the report and responses to comments from the Committee be noted. | No further action |

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| 27 | 5 January 2023 | Review of Send Provision in Northumberland: Scoping Report | <p>RESOLVED that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The terms of reference and scope of the review be agreed; 2. The membership be agreed as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Councillor R Dodd (Chair) Councillor C Ball Councillor A Dale Councillor M Swinbank Mr J Sanderson (Co-opted Member) 3. The timetable for the review to be completed be agreed by the members; and 4. The findings of the review be reported to Family and Children's Service Overview and Scrutiny Committee. | Task and Finish Group meeting dates to be confirmed |
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